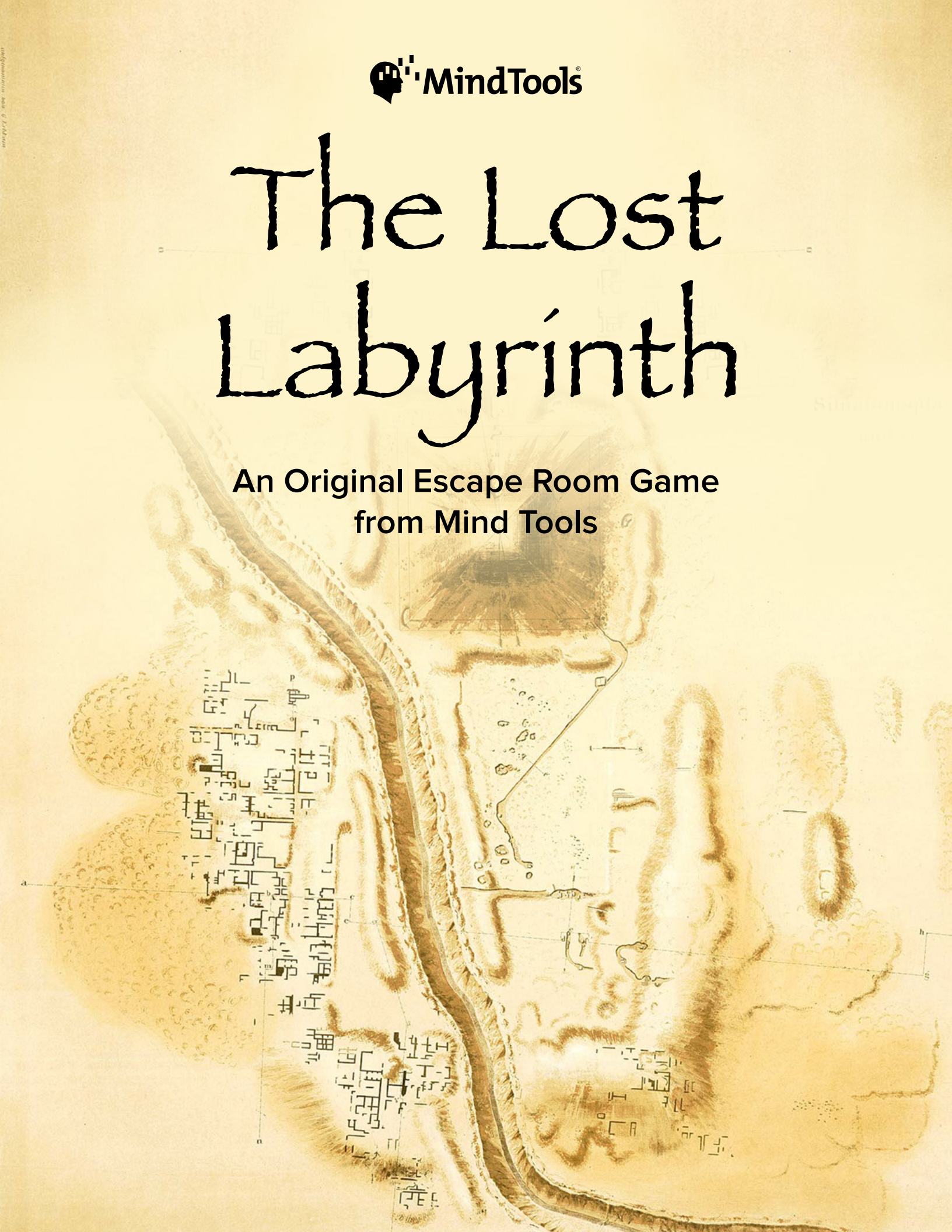




The Lost Labyrinth

An Original Escape Room Game
from Mind Tools



Scenario

Things have been going well recently for you and your team at The National Museum of Egyptology – until tonight!

For weeks you've been getting ready to put on your most important exhibition to date: "Treasures of Hawara" – a collection of new discoveries from one of Egypt's most exciting archaeological sites. Hawara is where many people believe the famous Lost Labyrinth was built. This vast, double-layer maze, filled with royal treasure, was said to be so ambitious and lavish that – if unearthed today – it would instantly become the eighth Wonder of the World.

The artefacts in this exhibition may hold vital clues about the Labyrinth's location. They're already attracting great interest – in particular, the centrepiece item, an exquisite golden bowl, engraved with mysterious signs and symbols.

Preliminary scans suggest that there may be further markings *under* the gold, although it is unlikely that these will ever be fully revealed. Even so, this item has incalculable value, and it is being guarded with the utmost care.

The Hawara Bowl has been placed in its own display case, with unbreakable glass and custombuilt security. To open the cabinet, a password must be entered into the museum's central security system, after which there is a one-hour delay – to prevent any sudden attempts at theft. Only when the hour has passed, and with the gallery clear and guards in place, can the case be unlocked, using a key held by the Head of Security himself.

That man is Arthur Black, and you and your team are meeting with him tonight after hours in the museum's security room. The plan had been to check all the arrangements for the exhibition's gala opening in a few days. However, everything changed very suddenly.

Without warning, the room's electronic door control beeped loudly and locked itself. Arthur Black tried typing several release codes into the keypad, but nothing worked.

Then you noticed movement on one of the security screens on the wall – the screen showing the Hawara Bowl. Someone was there, sitting right next to the display cabinet. They were shrouded in shadows, and you couldn't make out their face, but you could clearly see the key grasped in their hand.

Arthur Black checked the small safe under his desk where that key should have been – but it was empty. Before any of you could react, an alarm sounded from his computer, accompanied by a message on the screen: TIME-DELAY ACTIVATED. DISPLAY CABINET CAN BE UNLOCKED IN 59 minutes and 59 seconds, 58, 57...

Now nothing else on the computer works. The phone on Black's desk is dead, and cell phones don't get reception this far into the museum.

You're going to have to do something yourselves, and fast, otherwise the person waiting in the exhibition hall downstairs will simply unlock the cabinet, take the priceless bowl, and walk off into the night.

Letter

Dear Ex-Friends,

What a pity it had to come to this. But a person can only take so much. You snubbed me, belittled me, and ridiculed my ideas for too long. You made me ill and forced me out.

But now I'm back, and I've taken control. I'm ready to do what it takes to reveal the real secrets of the Hawara Bowl – and prove that I was right all along.

Enough of your pathetic, pedantic pondering. It's time for action. In one hour, when the cabinet door clicks open, I will take away your precious bowl, and employ a more... *forceful* approach.

Whoever made the bowl hid messages under the surface. Unlike you, I'm not distracted by its outward beauty. I will do whatever it takes to reveal the bowl's hidden clues.

So prepare to say goodbye to your prized display-piece. It can be smashed into bits for all I care, just as long as I get to the truth.

By unearthing the magical eighth Wonder of the World, I will finally gain the recognition I deserve – and it will last for ever.

But... as the minutes tick by, I present you with one last opportunity to stop me. I know that there are still some among you who believe your knowledge and intelligence to be superior to mine. Well, let's see.

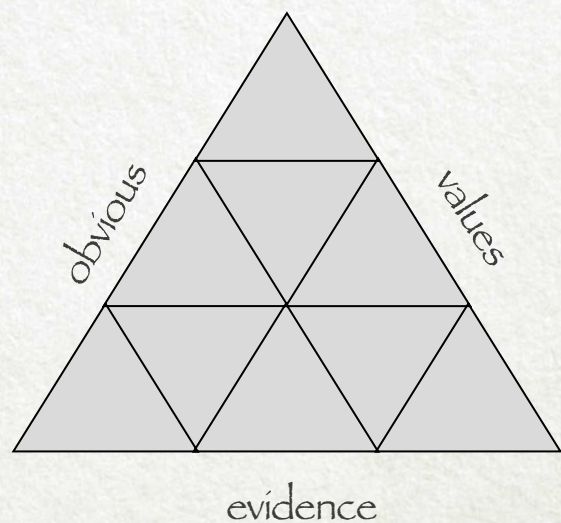
I've constructed a complex puzzle, inspired by many different aspects of my research. None of the real secrets of the bowl or the labyrinth are revealed here, of course. But these riddles will test all your knowledge and skill to the limit, to show us where the brains in this building really lie.

Do you have what it takes to beat me – to find answers that are staring you in the face? I doubt it. Unlike you, I'm someone who actually **values obvious evidence** – and I'm about to prove it.

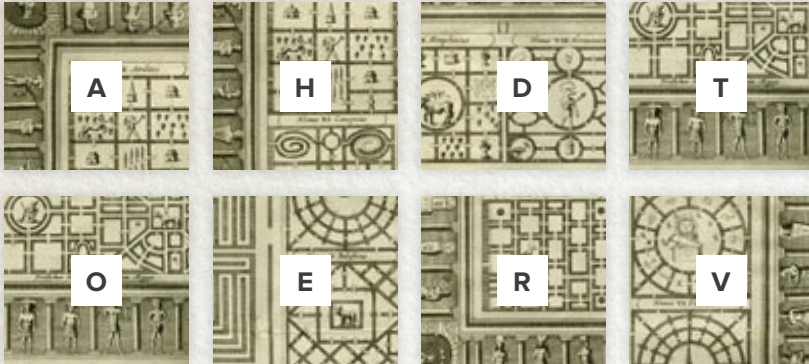
If you can complete my pyramid, you'll find me – and maybe the one other person who believed my ideas. And if, in the process, you discover the seven-digit door code I've used to lock you in – well, simply walk down here and stop me in my tracks. I will bow to your brilliance.

Start with the **hieroglyphs**, but hurry: the clock is ticking.

You now have less than an hour before I, and the bowl, are gone.



Desk Clues

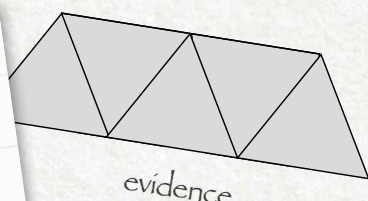


Cc Charles Carter, Eden Lamb

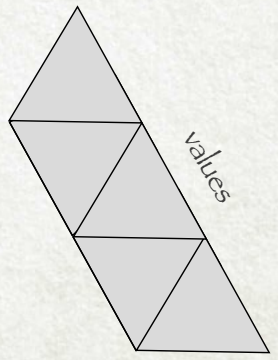
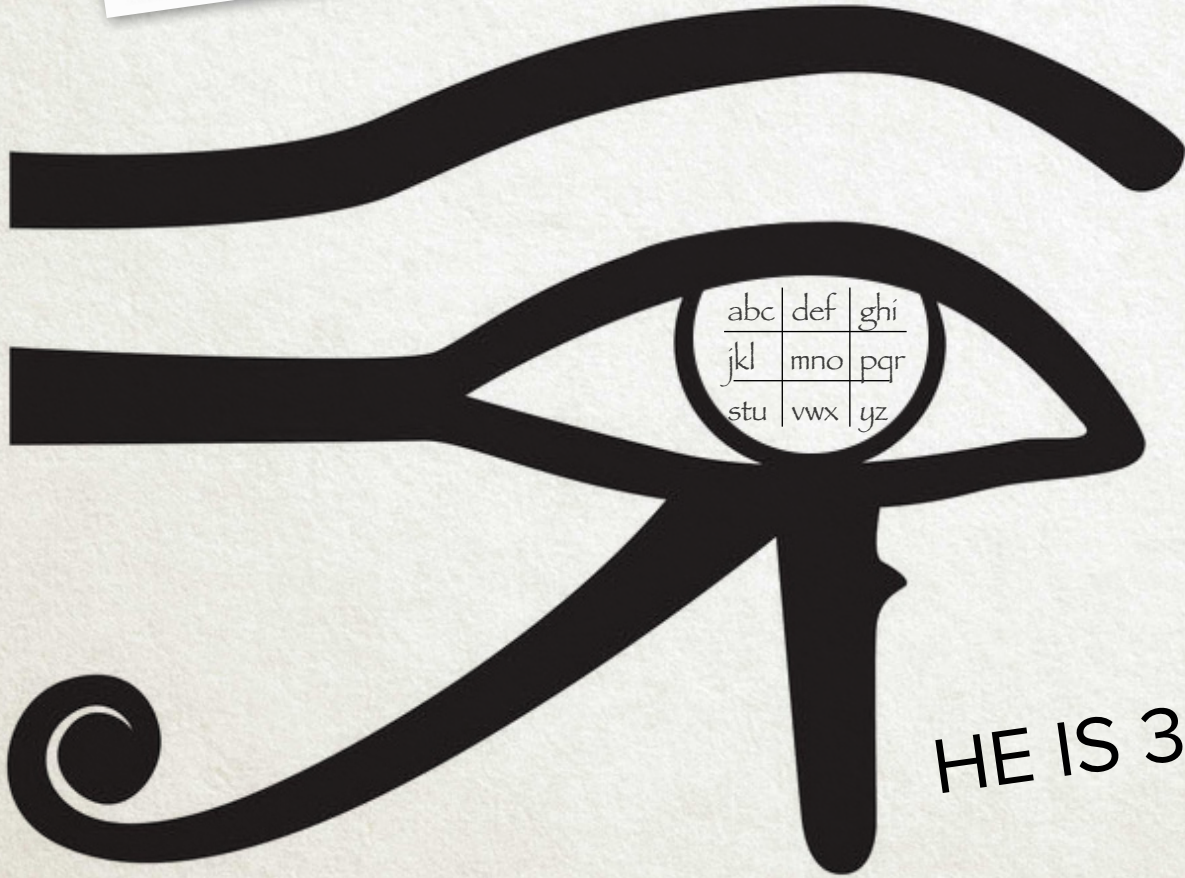
Re: Advertisement

Hi - Using my notes, the media team has drafted an advertisement for the exhibition. I've attached it here. Please read it carefully, then let me know your initial reactions as soon as possible.

Thanks,



- I
- II
- III
- IV
- V
- VI
- VII
- VIII
- IX
- X

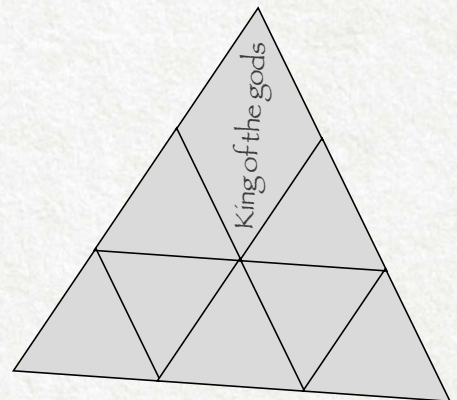
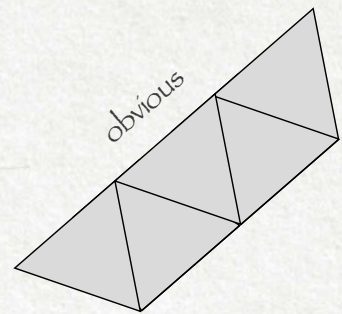


HE IS 3,4

Desk Clues



or corrupts.
ulcered *adj.* **ulcerous** *adj.*
ulcerate *v.*
 ul·cer·ate | \ 'əl-sə-,rāt
 develop into or affect with an ulcer
ulcerates, ulcerating, ulcerated
ulema *n.*
 ule·ma | \ ,ü-lə-'mä
 a body of Islamic scholars, esp. of theology and l

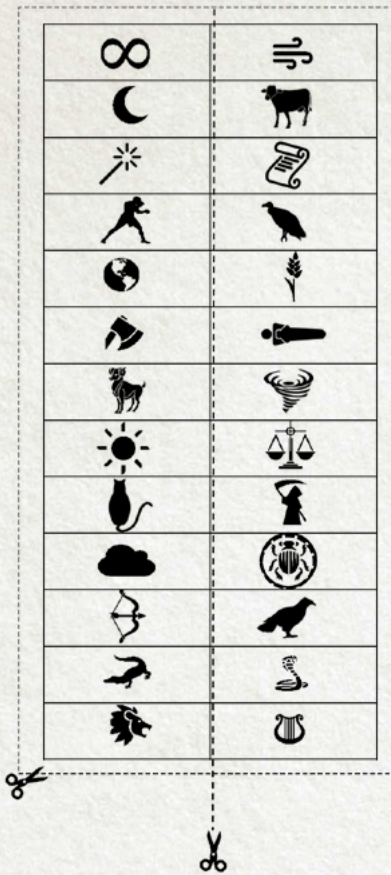


Pelle ^{skin} sub angina latitat
 mens saepa ^{wolfish} lupina

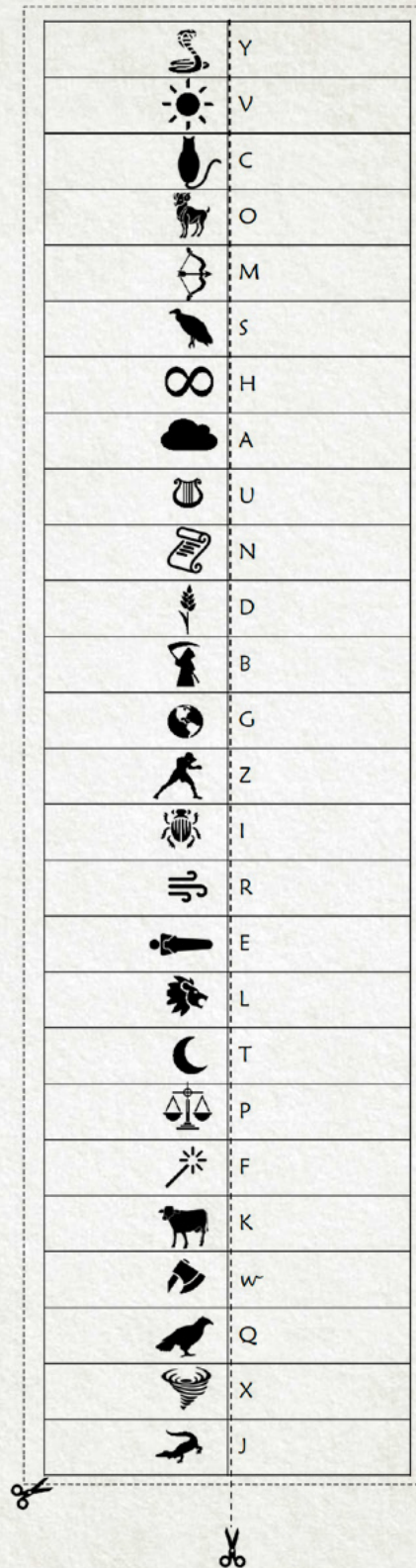
Country where p... the Glas...
 Misguided need for paradise (4)
 Reacting badly when supplying (8)
 Rorschach p...
 sink blo

Decoders

Small Decoder

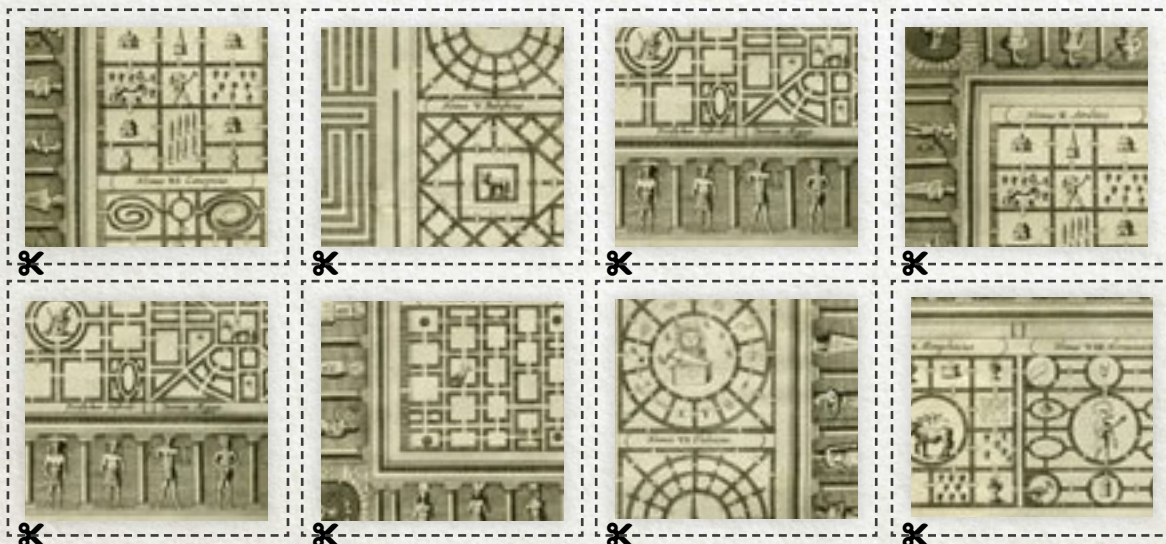
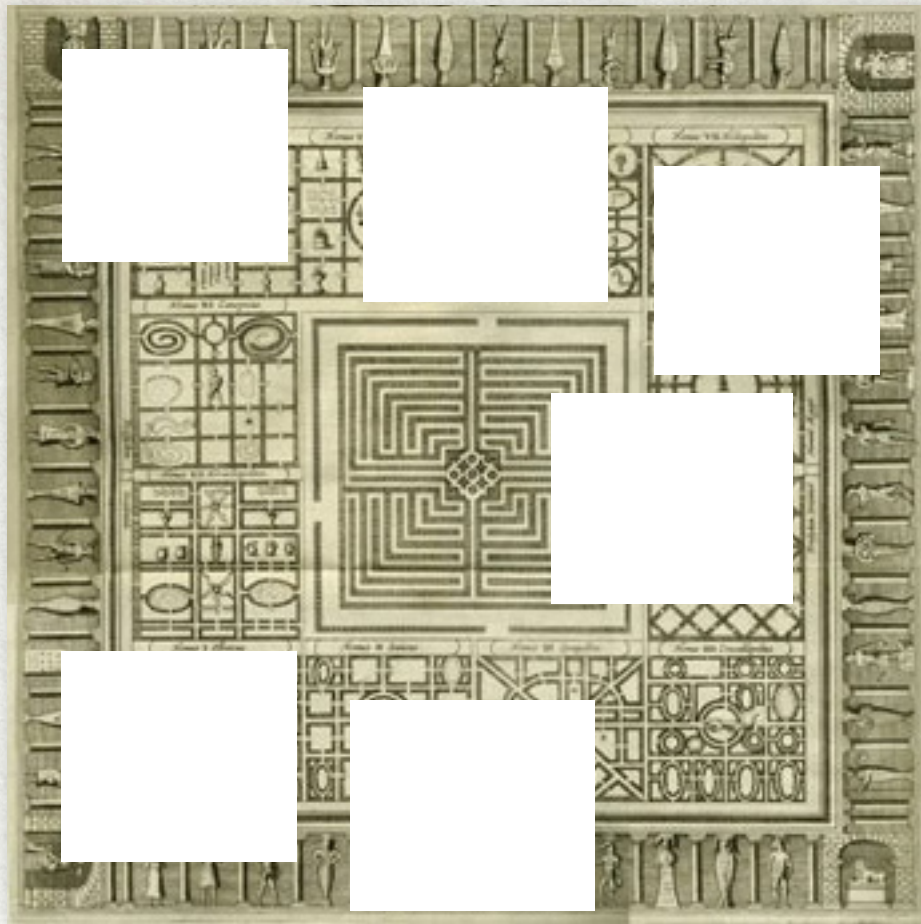


Large Decoder





























Labyrinth

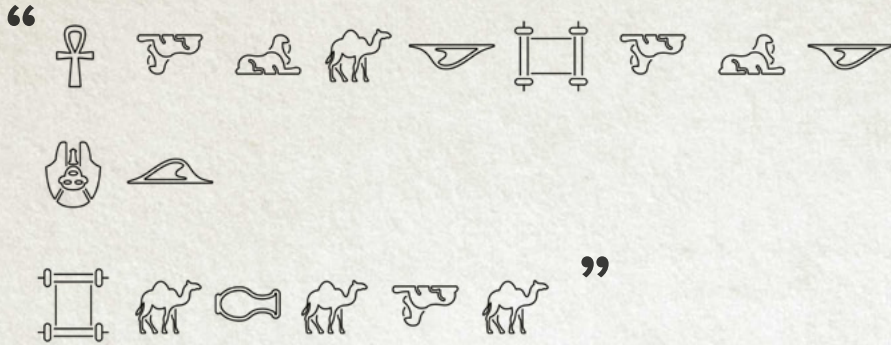
Engraving of the Lost Labyrinth by Athanasius Kircher, 1679



Deities

-  Aker – god of the **earth**, especially the horizon
-  Anhur – god of war and **hunting**
-  Anubis/Anput – goddess of **embalming** and the protection of the dead
-  Bastet – **cat** or lioness goddess; a protector from evil
-  Bat – **cow** goddess
-  Hathor – goddess of the sky, motherhood, dance, and **music**
-  Heh – deity representing **infinity**
-  Horus – sky god, represented by a **falcon**
-  Isis – goddess linked with motherhood, funerals, protection, and **magic**
-  Khepri – sun god, represented by a **scarab beetle**
-  Khnum/Khnemu – represented by a **ram**; controls the flooding of the Nile
-  Khonsu – **moon** god
-  Maahes – **lion** god
-  Maat – goddess personifying **justice**, truth, and universal order
-  Nekhbet/Nekhebit – **vulture** goddess
-  Neper and Nepit – god and goddess of the **grain**
-  Nu – represents the **watery chaos** before creation
-  Nut – **sky** goddess
-  Osiris – god of **death and resurrection**
-  Ptah – god of **craftspeople**
-  Ra – the most important **sun** god, the father of Egypt's kings, and the ruler of the gods
-  Set – desert god; represents violence and **strength**
-  Shu – represents air and **wind**
-  Sobek – **crocodile** god
-  Thoth – moon god; linked with **writing**
-  Wadjet – **cobra** goddess

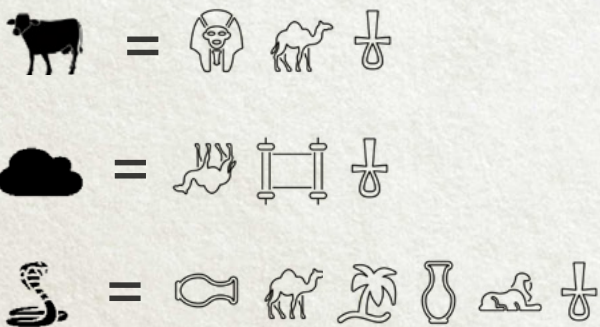
Hieroglyphs



Decrypt this code to find out where to go next:



The **deities** sheet (and the rest of this page) should help.



Advertisement

The National Museum of Egyptology

TREASURES OF HAWARA

SECRETS OF THE LOST LABYRINTH

August 8-31



This landmark exhibition includes important artefacts from the archaeological site at Hawara in Egypt, close to the resting place of Pharaoh Armenemhat III. Hundreds of newly discovered objects have been brought together in this collection, many of which have been linked to the mysterious Lost Labyrinth.

Experts believe that this ancient, maze-like structure lies buried near Armenemhat's pyramid. But exactly where is unknown – so perhaps these treasures will help to solve the mystery at last.

Old texts tell of a vast, double-level labyrinth of chambers and passageways, filled with priceless treasures from the Twelfth Dynasty pharaohs. When archaeologists recently scanned the land near the pyramid, they found unmistakable evidence of a huge maze under the sand. Legal restrictions were enforced soon after, preventing any further digs. Many archaeologists are now campaigning for these rules to be changed, so that a major excavation can begin.

Under the desert, they believe, lies a structure that could be more magnificent than the great pyramids themselves! So where is the entrance? The treasures in this exhibition may contain vital clues – particularly the centrepiece item, an ornate, symbol-covered golden bowl, which experts hope may point toward the location of the Labyrinth, and eventually reveal its riches.

Be among the first to explore the treasures of Hawara at our Gala Opening, hosted by our Patron, Sir Charles Carter, and the exhibition's curator, Eden Lamb, on Friday, August 7, at 8 p.m.. Extra tickets for this have just been released. Contact the museum to apply for up to five places at the event. Read more information on the museum's website.

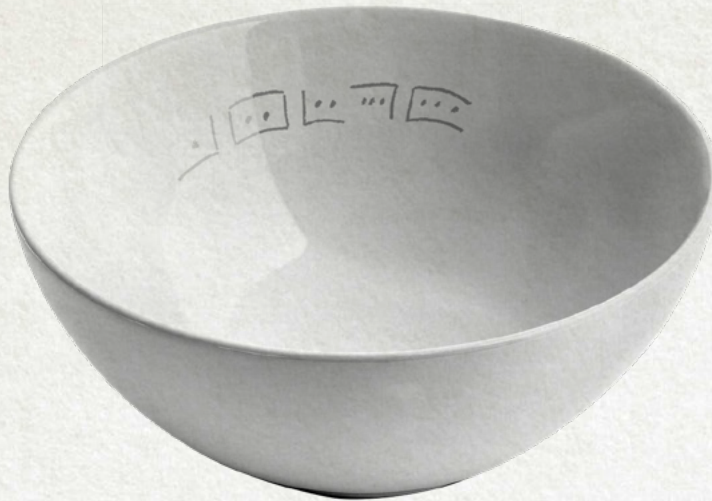
After the Gala Opening, "**Treasures of Hawara**" will then be open to everyone: weekdays 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and weekends 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.. Commemorative goods and a range of other souvenirs will be available from the museum shop throughout the exhibition.

Keep in touch on social media for updates and exclusive offers. Egypt is always a fascinating country to learn about, but this exhibition is one of the most important we've ever held.

Discover these new treasures while they're on show here, to learn more about the marvelous and mysterious Lost Labyrinth of the Pharaohs.

The Hawara Bowl: Interior and Base

Interior



Look into the **Eye of Horus** to solve the code on the bowl.

The name you reveal will show you how to align the two strips of the **small decoder**. Then see what the sun is shining on, and use that to align the **large decoder** strips – so that you can solve this:



?

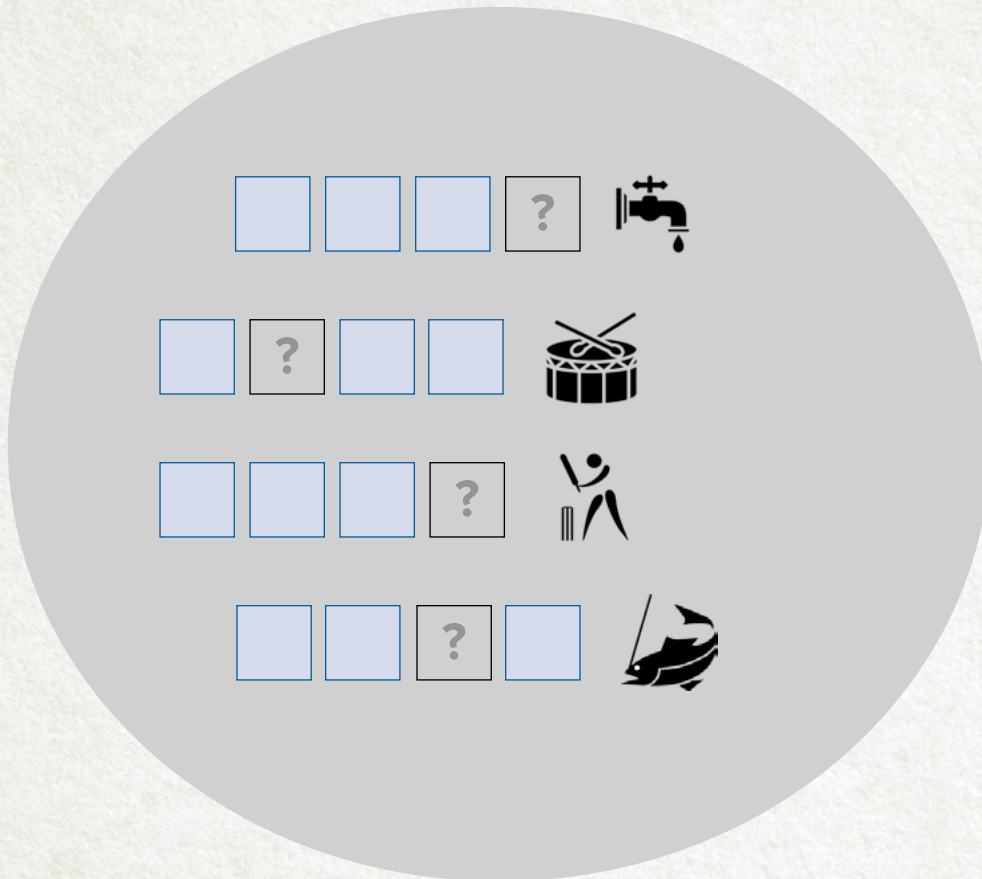
Where else have you seen that number? That's where to go next.

The Hawara Bowl: Interior and Base

Base

Only attempt to decrypt the base of the bowl when instructed.

When that time comes, **one god** will allow you to fill in the blue squares. Simply add an extra letter each time – to make a word that matches the picture alongside.



The **four extra letters** you used: where have you seen them before?

Two gods will now help you to unlock the door...

... but make sure that their names look right from the heavens.

Herodotus

The Ancient Greek historian Herodotus wrote a famous description of the Labyrinth at Hawara. If you have time, you can read it all here. However, the five words you're looking for are in the sections of text that have been underlined.

Herodotus (c. 484-425 B.C.E.) From Histories, Book II:

[Transcribed by Moira Field, the museum's Head of Research]

It has twelve covered courts – six in a row facing north, six south – the gates of the one range exactly fronting the gates of the other. Inside, the building is of two storeys and contains three thousand rooms, of which half are underground, and the other half directly above them.

I was taken through the rooms in the upper storey, so what I shall say of them is from my own observation, but the underground ones I can speak of only from report, because the Egyptians in charge refused to let me see them, as they contain the tombs of the kings who built the labyrinth, and also the tombs of the sacred crocodiles.

The upper rooms, on the contrary, I did actually see, and it is hard to believe that they are the work of men; the baffling and intricate passages from room to room and from court to court were an endless wonder to me, as we passed from a courtyard into rooms, from rooms into galleries, from galleries into more rooms and thence into yet more courtyards.

The roof of every chamber, courtyard, and gallery is, like the walls, of stone. The walls are covered with carved figures, and each court is exquisitely built of white marble and surrounded by a colonnade.

Cross-Word Clues:

Piece of wood:	S	T	A	K	E	
Character in a story:						
Play with this:						
Make smooth:						
Female animal:						
Not fastened:						



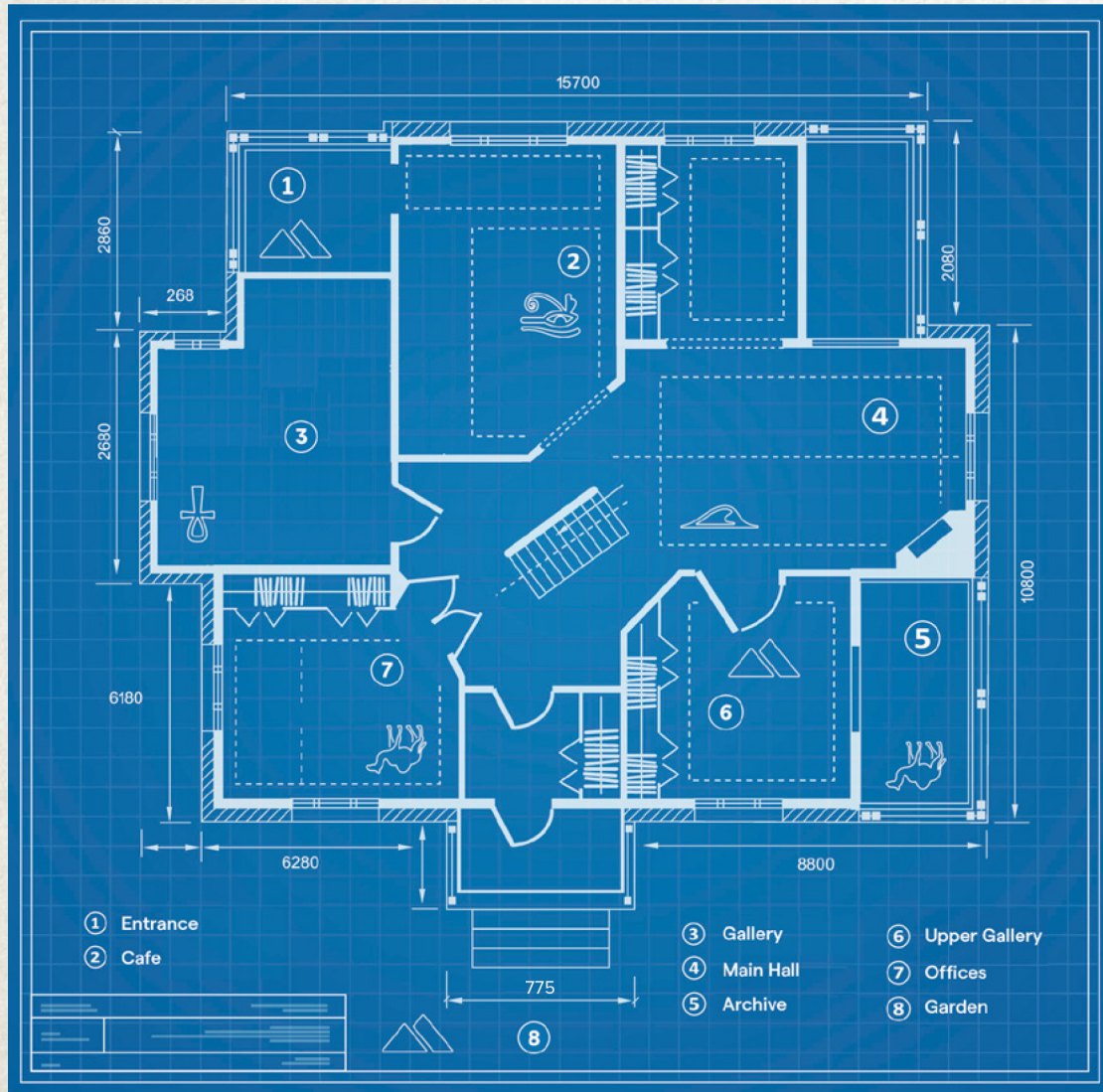
Read down the highlighted squares to reveal a name. Use that to align the two strips of the **small decoder**.

Which creature is being attacked? Use that to align the two strips of the **large decoder**.

After that, if the cat is called Felix, how old is it? That number is in my birthdate.

Now **turn over the bowl**.

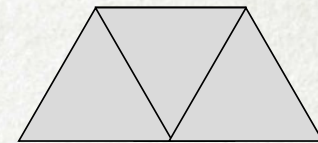
Museum Map



When you know where to start, take a journey around the rooms **in exact order**.

(Use the room numbers – but don't go in *numerical* order.)

In the final room, what do people do? (How appropriate for me!) Put that word into the pyramid – giving you three of the nine letters you need to complete it:



On your journey around the museum, the symbols should have shown you how to align the strips of the **small decoder**.

Then use whatever's in the shadow of the moon to set up the **large decoder** – and use that to break the heavenly ring.

Former Employee List [Compiled by Anton Spassky, Head of H.R.]

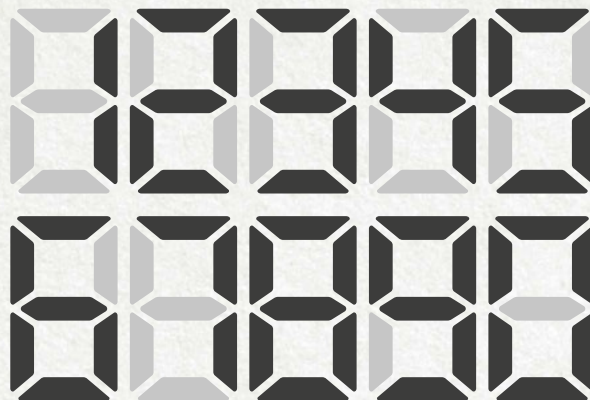
Name	Date of Birth (M/D/Y)	Employee No.	Role	Notes
CARLOS RAMIREZ	9/12/86	016	ARCHIVIST	Resigned to take up a position at another museum
JON FOREST	2/10/99	234	KITCHEN PORTER	Retired on health grounds
DEV CHANDA	9/24/98	030	GUIDE	Moved to a position in the Civil Service
KIM LEE	1/18/82	148	RECEPTIONIST	Dismissed for misusing museum property
ANT SHEPHERD	10/4/86	200	WAITER	Resigned – no reason given
DAISY McADAMS	4/16/97	078	GARDENER	Left to go back to university
OLIVER MERINO	6/6/74	109	GUIDE	Made redundant due to restructuring
JEAN CROOK	9/20/92	034	PUBLICIST	Retired
LUCAS TREE	8/10/80	202	CHEF	Resigned due to ill health
ADELE DUPONT	2/26/85	176	SECURITY GUARD	Resigned to take up a more senior role in the hotel industry
WENDY FARMER	10/18/94	063	GUIDE	Left at the end of a temporary contract
LUKE BLACK	4/26/91	009	CLEANER	Dismissed for poor performance
JUAN GARCIA	7/16/93	102	ASST. CURATOR	Left to spend a year travelling with family
PEN WEBB	4/28/72	124	RESEARCHER	Resigned – no reason given
CAT PALMER	10/29/98	080	CURATOR'S P.A.	Resigned to train as a teacher
PETE OAK	11/2/86	033	CHEF	Made redundant due to restructuring
MOHAMMED SUR	5/4/77	210	GUIDE	Finished maternity-cover role
TIMMO WANG	8/6/00	126	CLEANER	Dismissed for unprofessional conduct
STEPHEN ELMS	11/30/99	190	I.T. TECHNICIAN	Took early retirement to care for a family member
PAT WALKER	6/10/90	025	WAITER	Resigned due to ill health

Fictitious information from the escape game "The Lost Labyrinth."

Answer Entry Sheet

What's the seven-digit code that will unlock the door?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--



In addition, use this pyramid to reveal the **thief** – and their **accomplice**:

